of business as actual business is conducted long after the events are over, an indication of the success of participation in fairs abroad can be had from the following information relating to exhibits sold and business booked in these fairs:—

(*Rs. in lakhs*)

Year	No. of fairs	Exhibits sold	Business booked
1977-78	17	37.12	1588.04
1978-79	11	61.39	2168.58
1979-80	14	50.81	1750.37
1980-81	13	131.98	2693.95
1981-82	14	56.01	1233.85
1982-83	38	120.26	9050.41
1983-84	42	132.45	7190.90
1984-85	38	77.13	3576.38

The Trade Fair Authority of India has also been organising India International Trade Fair in Pragati Maidan every year. The business generated at these fairs is as under:—

(*Rs. in crores*)

Year	Business generated
1981	500
1982	1300
1983	1100
1984	1200

Import of agricultural commodities

2324. SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to stop imports of critical agricultural commodities like edible oils and sugar if so, what will be the quantum of saving in foreign exchange as a result thereof; and

(b) what was the quantum of foreign exchange spent year-wise on their imports during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) and (b) Import of essential commodities like edible oils and sugar are resorted to only to meet the gap betwen demand and supply on account of inadequacy of indigenous production. The amounts of foreign exchange spent year-wise on import of edible oils and sugar canalised through STC are given below:—

(CIF value Rs. (crores)

Year	Edible oils	Sugar
1982-83	418	No imports
1983-84	846	Do.
1984-85	1300	113.62*

*This includes one cargo sunk on high seas for which full value realised from insurers.

Opening of hotels in Nepal

2325. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to open few hotels in Nepal;

(b) if so, the number of hotels proposed to be constructed by ITDC in Nepal;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Government of Nepal has also given its consent to assist in the construction of these hotels; and

(d) if so, what are the details of the programme chalked out in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b) The Seventh Five Year Plan of ITDC does not include any provision for construction of hotels in Nepal.

(c) and (d) ITDC Management has signed an agreement with M|s. Hotel Jaya International (Private) Limited to provide technical consultancy during the construction of their hotel project at Kathmandu on mutually agreed terms and conditions.

उत्तर प्रदेश के ग्रामीण इलाकों में राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों की शाखाएं

2326. **श्री आनन्द प्रकाश गौतम :** क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) ग्रामीण विकास में राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों की भूमिका को ध्यान में रखते हुये क्या हरेक विकास खंड स्तर पर राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंक की कम से कम एक शाखा स्थापित हो गई है ; और

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो उत्तर प्रदेश में ऐसे कितने विकास खंड है जहां राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंक की कोई शाखा नहीं है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जनार्दन पुजारी) : (क) प्रत्येक विकास खंड में सरकारी क्षेत्र के किसी एक बैंक की कम से कम एक शाखा होना अभी तक संभव नहीं हो पाया है।

(ख) भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक ने सूचित किया है कि प्राप्त सूचना के अनुसार उत्तर प्रदेश राज्य के 891 विकास खंड में से केवल 92 विकास खंड ऐसे हैं जिनमें सरकारी क्षेत्र के बैंक की कोई शाखा नहीं है।

Formulation of a new Banking Policy

2327. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to formulate a new banking policy and make profitability the goal for the banks; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) by when it is likely to become effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) With a view to securing an alround improvement in the functioning of the banks, all aspects of their operations as also of various policies having a bearing on those operations are kept under continual review by the Reserve Bank of India and Government. Profitability continues to be one of the improtant objectives set before the public sector banks.

(b) Does not arise.

Assessment of tax on the Income of Industrialists

2328. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Governments consideration to assess tax on the income of industrialists/businessmen after the deduction of dividend paid by them and to treat dividend as expenditure, for the purpose of assessing income-tax;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The dividend paid is not an expenditure incurred wholly and exclusively for the purposes of business and, therefore, deduction of dividend paid cannot be allowed for computing the business income.